

Department of Health Care Policy and Financing Updates April 30, 2012

This publication updates you on major Department initiatives including policy changes and program updates. Please feel free to share it with your colleagues and contact the designated staff person if you would like more information.

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Breaking News

Health Care Reform Implementation - Health and Human Services Summit

The Department will provide an overview of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) provisions and discuss Colorado's vision for a more effective, efficient and elegant delivery of health care services for the state at the Health and Human Services Summit.

The two-day Summit will include information on planned changes to eligibility processes and caseloads for Medicaid and Child Health Plan *Plus* (CHP+), describe planned technology and organizational changes to support ACA provisions for expanded health care coverage, and discuss potential impacts on county health and human services agencies.

While the Summit is primarily designed for county and state health and human services professionals, others are welcome to attend.

When:

May 14 and 15, 2012

8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Denver Marriott South at Park Meadows 10345 Park Meadows Drive, Lone Tree, Colorado 80124

Space is limited and advanced registration is required. Please <u>click here</u> to register.

For more information, please contact Cindi Terra at 303-866-5459.

HCPF Receives Client Engagement Grant

The Department was notified this week it will receive a planning grant from the <u>Colorado Health Foundation</u> to begin work on integrating a client and family centered approach into Department operations. Studies have shown that when health care administrators, providers, clients and families work in partnership, the quality and safety of health care increases, costs decrease, and provider and client satisfaction also increase.

The Department will apply for a larger implementation grant based on recommendations following the planning process. The planning phase will address how to better involve clients and families as advisors, how to increase participation in care and decision making, and how to improve client and family access to information, education and support.

For more information please contact Lisa Waugh at 303-866-2029.

Improving Long-Term Services and Supports Delivery System

Long-Term Care Advisory Committee Meeting Reminder

The Long-Term Care Advisory Committee (LTCAC) meets in Denver on Tuesday, May 1, from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m., at 225 E. 16th Avenue, 1st floor conference room. The LTCAC members represent Long-Term Services and Supports stakeholders; you can contact them through the LTCAC Member Contact List located on the Department's Web site.

All LTCAC meetings include time for public comment. Stakeholders are welcome to participate in person or by telephone. <u>Click here</u> for meeting materials and call-in information.

For more information or to be added to the LTCAC email distribution list, please contact <u>John</u> <u>Barry</u> at 303-866-3173.

Colorado's Inaugural Aging and Disability Summit - Call for Sessions

The Departments of Health Care Policy and Financing, Human Services, and Public Health and Environment, in conjunction with other state, local, and non-profit organizations, have announced a call for sessions for Colorado's Inaugural Aging & Disability Services Summit: Together, Forging a Path to the Top. The event will be held November 13 – 15, 2012 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Colorado Springs, Colorado. The **deadline for submitting sessions is May 15, 2012**. Click here for details on proposal guidelines.

This Summit will offer high caliber training and professional development for public and private sector health and human services professionals who provide services to older adults and persons with disabilities. The overall objective of the event is to promote collaboration, innovation, education, skills and leadership to enhance service delivery to these populations throughout Colorado.

For more information contact Tara Franck at 303-866-5288.

Improving Health Outcomes

Accountable Care Collaborative Update

The Department announced it will continue to pay the current pay-for-performance reimbursement to Children's Medical Home providers for all Children's Medical Home providers (including those who are participating as Primary Care Medical Providers (PCMPs) in the Accountable Care Collaborative program) through state fiscal year 2012-13 (July-June). Click here for more information.

Enrollment in the <u>Accountable Care Collaborative</u> (ACC) increased by nearly 19,000 clients over the past month to an estimated 125,193. The <u>ACC Advisory Subcommittees</u> meet monthly. Anyone interested in being involved with the ACC program is encouraged to participate in the advisory process.

For more information, please contact <u>Kathryn Jantz</u> at 303-866-5972.

Containing Health Care Costs

Dual Eligible Demonstration Contract Comment Period Ends May 14

There are approximately two weeks remaining in the 30-day public comment period for the Dual Eligible Demonstration Contract proposal. Colorado was one of 15 states awarded contracts to find new ways to better coordinate care for clients who are eligible for both Medicare and Medicaid programs. By finding ways to integrate care for dual eligible individuals, the proposal outlines the Department's vision and commitment to improving care for this population, improving health outcomes and client experience of care, while reducing unnecessary expenditures.

For more information, please contact <u>Teri Bolinger</u> at 303-866-2412.

Increasing Number of Insured Coloradans

Adults without Dependent Children (AwDC) Launches

The Adults without Dependent Children program (AwDC) launched April 1. The AwDC program will provide Medicaid benefits to 10,000 eligible adults, ages 19 through 64, who are at or below 10% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL), do not have a Medicaid-eligible dependent child living in the home and who are ineligible for Medicare and other Medicaid programs. To date, more than 2,800 applicants have been determined eligible and placed on the waitlist. Applications will be accepted through May 15 and all applicants determined eligible between April 1, 2012 and May 15, 2012 will participate in a randomized member selection process.

The initial randomized selection process will occur in mid-May and is limited to 10,000 clients. All others determined eligible, but not selected and those determined eligible after May 15, will remain on a waitlist for future randomized selection as spots become available.

To assist your clients through the application and the enrollment process, the Department has several resources on the <u>Benefits for Adults without Dependent Children Web page</u>. You will find various materials including a one-page flyer to use in your agency, fact sheets, Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs), a correspondence chart and a desk guide.

For more information, please contact <u>Susan Mathieu</u> at 303-866-3582 or <u>Andrea Skubal</u> at 303-866-3632 or visit <u>Colorado/gov/hcpf/awdc</u>.

Update: Medicaid Buy-In for Working Adults with Disabilities (Adult Buy-In)

Since <u>launching</u> the <u>Adult Buy-In</u> on March 1, more than 115 clients have been enrolled. The Department continues to update the Frequently Asked Questions Web page as the Department receives new questions and feedback from partners and stakeholders.

The Adult Buy-In program is for adults with disabilities ages 16 through 64, who are employed and whose income and/or resources were previously too high to qualify for Medicaid. The Adult Buy-In allows eligible clients to pay a monthly premium based on their income to access Medicaid benefits.

For more information on the Adult Buy-In, please contact Martha Beavers at 303-866-3998.

Medicaid Buy-In for Children with Disabilities (Children's Buy-In)

Starting in July 2012, the Medicaid Buy-In for Children with Disabilities (Children's Buy-In) will allow eligible families to pay a monthly premium to 'buy-in' to Medicaid benefits for their child with a disability. Training programs for this new program are being held throughout Colorado in May. Click here for dates and locations of upcoming meetings (NOTE: if you have Internet Explorer 8, you will have to scroll to the bottom of the page to view the upcoming meetings on the Web page).

For more information on the Children's Buy-In, please contact Martha Beavers at 303-866-3998.

Colorado Health Benefit Exchange Updates

The <u>Colorado Health Benefit Exchange</u> is a new health insurance marketplace that was created by Senate Bill 11-200 and is scheduled to open in October 2013. The Exchange is a public, non-profit entity (not a state agency) governed by a Board of Directors with additional direction from a Legislative Implementation Review Committee. The Exchange's Executive Director, Patty Fontneau, posts and distributes regular updates about Exchange activities and related issues at www.getcoveredco.org/blog.

If you'd like to be added to the email distribution list or if you'd like to request a speaker to discuss the Exchange's work at your next meeting or community event, send your request to info@cohbe.org or call 720-382-7083.

Employment Opportunities

Applying for state jobs has just become easier! Applications are electronic, you will receive updates, and you do not need to answer any written questions until it is determined that you meet the minimum qualifications. Check out the new Web site and our job openings.

The Department offers a competitive benefits package that includes the Public Employees' Retirement Account (PERA), a 401K or 457 retirement plan, health and dental insurance options, 10 holidays, and accrual of paid sick and vacation time.

The Department is a tobacco-free campus.

Enrollment

In March 2012 there were 632,511 clients enrolled in Medicaid and 84,088 clients enrolled in CHP+. Monthly numbers for enrollment and expenditures can be found on the Department's Budget Web page.